

*****May 11, 2020*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a regular meeting electronically on Monday, May 11, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 4:11 p.m. Those present were:

Those present were: Mayor Dan Landrum
Councilmember Cheryl Graham
Councilmember Bill Lusk
Councilmember Susannah Murdock

Also present were: Town Manager Boyd Veal
Town Attorney Harry Cash
Finance Director/Town Recorder Carol White

Mayor Landrum led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was observed.

Minutes

The minutes for the April 13, 2020 regular meeting were presented. There being no changes, the minutes were approved.

The minutes for the April 27, 2020 regular meeting were presented. There being no changes, the minutes were approved.

Citizen Comments

Mayor Landrum invited comments from the audience.

Claire Griesinger, Carriage Hill, spoke to the recent bid for new Automated Meter Read (AMR) water meters. She asked the Council to consider getting information on Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI) system.

There being no further comments, the meeting resumed.

Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO PURCHASE FIREFIGHTING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN FROM NAFECO, INCORPORATED THROUGH A MEMBER INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY NATIONAL PURCHASING PARTNERS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED SIXTEEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED EIGHT (\$16,608.00) DOLLARS AND TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE SAID PURCHASE."

Councilmember Murdock made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

2. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO PURCHASE ONE (1) 2021 KENWORTH T270 DUMP TRUCK, FROM MHC KENWORTH OF CHATTANOOGA, CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED FORTY-SEVEN DOLLARS (\$89,547.00) TO BE USED BY THE WATER UTILITY DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN."

Councilmember Graham made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Lusk seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

3. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM THE TENNESSEE HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,000.00) WHICH WILL RESULT IN PAYMENT FOR EQUIPMENT, AND OVERTIME TO BE PROVIDED AS A HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES TO REDUCE SPEEDING, AGGRESSIVE DRIVING, DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE, AND NON-SEATBELT USAGE FOR CHILDREN AND PASSENGERS WITHIN MOTOR VEHICLES IN THE TOWN."

Councilmember Murdock made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

Discussion

- a. Water Meter RFP Update. Mayor Landrum explained that AMR meters captures automated readings by driving past the meter with a receiver. He said that AMI meters collect readings at the meter and then transmits the data via wi-fi to a receiver at Town Hall. The Council held discussions regarding the difference in pricing, reliability, usage by other utilities, staffing needs, availability, and long-term usage considerations. Council asked Town Manager, Boyd Veal, to prepare an RFP for purchase of AMI meters.

In addition, Mayor Landrum asked about the progress of the proposed interconnect with Walden's Ridge Utility District (WRUD). Water Utility Director, Adam Chrnalogar, explained that test holes had been dug about a month ago to test the rock depth. Mr. Chrnalogar said that connecting WRUD's 12" line to our 6" line is the best option. Mr. Veal said that given staffing shifts and limitations due to the pandemic this issue had not been looked at for a while. Mr. Veal said that he has learned that the proposed commercial development in Walden would include installing a 12" line down to Timesville Road. He said this will then be 1,500 feet from our tank and could present a better option. Mr. Veal

said he is also waiting on a report from WRUD on the sub-surface conditions along Miles, and a cost estimate of construction from WRUD General Manager, Ron West.

- b. Use of Recreation Facilities. Council discussed their concerns about the need to continue social distancing and compliance with Governor Lee's guidelines. They agreed to continue with the current closings including the Mountain Arts Community Center (MACC), Rainbow Lake, and the pool, and to revisit these closings at the next meeting.
- c. Town Operations. It was agreed this item was covered in the previous discussion.

Manager's Report

Mr. Veal said that the Recycling Center is expanding its hours of operation to 11:00 to 6:00, Monday thru Friday. He said the Transfer Station is opening from 8:00 to 4:00, Monday thru Friday. He said it will also begin accepting construction materials and bulky items from residents, but not from contractors. Mr. Veal said that the Town will begin the bulky item pickups on first Fridays. Mayor Landrum thanked Public Works Director, Loretta Hopper, for showing up and working so hard at the Recycling Center.

Mr. Veal said that the Town is back to full staffing. He said that Town Hall is still closed to the public, but that staff is working with customers by phone and on-line.

Mr. Veal explained that brush pickup has been slowed because of chipping, but this service is once again being done, along with right-of-way mowing.

Mr. Veal said that the time approved by the Council for full pay for all employees and to allow them to work from home has been completed. He said that the MACC does not have anyone working there at present. Mr. Veal explained that while the Library is closed, staff is working there. Councilmember Lusk said that all the staff were doing a great job.

Other Business

- a. Communications from the Mayor. Mayor Landrum said that the Planning Commission met on Thursday and reviewed the final plat for the 2 lots on Ridgeway across from Town Hall. He said they also reviewed the final plat for the Windtree expansion, which needs documentation of their bonding. Mayor Landrum also said that the Planning Commission needs additional training opportunities.

Mayor Landrum said that he, Mr. Veal, Representative Patsy Hazelwood, Senator Bo Watson, Senator Todd Gardenhire, Lookout Tennessee Mayor Walker Jones, and Walden's Ridge Mayor William Trohanis were included in a conference call regarding the State's decision to allocate \$3 billion to aid needs of local municipalities due to the pandemic.

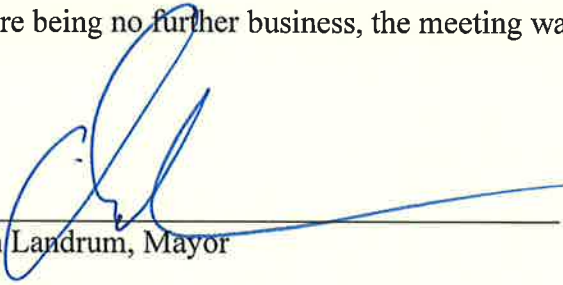
- b. Communications from Committees or Boards. None

- c. Communications from the Town Council. Councilmember Murdock said that training for the Planning Commission is a good idea. Mayor Landrum said that he called the Health Department and they have resumed sending e-mails with updates on the pandemic.

Tentative Agenda

Council discussed a tentative agenda for the May 20, 2020 meeting. Mr. Veal reminded the Council that this meeting will be an all-day budget workshop.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.



Dan Landrum, Mayor



Recorder